

Non-Traditional Routes to Certification

American Board for Certification of Teacher Excellence (ABCTE)

**RULE: IDAHO STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
(IDAPA 08, TITLE 02, CHAPTER 02)**

045. NON-TRADITIONAL ROUTE TO TEACHER CERTIFICATION.

An individual may acquire interim certification as found in Section 015 of these rules through an approved non-traditional route certification program. (3-20-14)

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At this time, American Board for Certification of Teacher Excellence (ABCTE) is the only computer-based alternate route to teacher certification. ABCTE is designed as an avenue to enter the teaching profession or to add additional certificates or endorsements to an existing Idaho credential. The candidate **MUST** hold a Bachelor's degree prior to enrolling in ABCTE.

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Step 1:

Enroll in ABCTE via www.abcte.org

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Step 2:

Complete the ABCTE testing and earn the ABCTE Passport to Teaching Certificate

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Step 3:

***Secure a teaching position with a district/charter in the applicable area of certification/endorsement**

*** The 3-year interim certificate is non-renewable; therefore, it is recommended that the candidate secure a teaching position with a district/charter before applying for the 3-year interim certificate in Step 4.**

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Step 4:

Use the ABCTE Passport to Teaching certificate to apply with the State Department of Education (SDE) for a 3-year interim certificate

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Step 5:

- Serve as a Teacher of Record for the district/charter in the applicable area of certification/endorsement
- Complete the required 2-year mentor program within the validity period of the 3-year interim certificate
- Complete any additional certification/endorsement requirements, if applicable, within the validity period of the 3-year interim certificate

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Step 6:

Apply for the clear 5-year, renewable
Idaho certificate/credential

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NOTE: If an Idaho public school district or charter school wishes to fill an area of need with an ABCTE candidate who has not yet completed the ABCTE testing (see Step 2), the district/charter can apply for an alternative authorization. If the application is approved by the Professional Standards Commission's Authorizations Committee, the candidate would be authorized to serve in that area of need while he/she simultaneously completes the ABCTE testing. The candidate must be enrolled in the ABCTE program for the same area of certification/endorsement for which the alternative authorization is applied. For more information, please refer to the following website: ([alternative authorization website](#)).

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ABCTE 3-year interim certificate application guidelines can be found at the following website:

([ABCTE 3-year interim certificate application guidelines website](#))